

CURRENT TOPICS.

LYONS pays her lieutenant-governor a day. AZOVILLE is the unique name of a town in Maine. BOAZ is the name of a Pawnee (K. K.) man. EYON will spend \$40,000 on an exhibit at the World's fair. DIANE's last torpedo boat had thirty-three knots and a half in a made run.

AMSON and the old magenta "ad" is the fashionable shades next to black. THERE are only 70,000 people in Ireland, but they "eat" eight newspapers the island.

It is said that the best Welsh scholar in an English woman, Mrs. Ann Jones. ANTHONY is at work on the canal between the Black sea and the Caspian.

ANGUSTA (Me) dentist is credited with having taken gas and extracted of his own teeth. The average duration of human life is said to be increasing at the rate of years each century.

LAZ, matter is sent between Paris and Berlin, a distance of 700 miles, through pneumatic tubes. BILL, before the Illinois senate for only women jurors in coroners inquests on women.

W. WEBSTER, of Beckwith, Nev., attempted to break a horse and while trying to do so, he was killed. ALEXANDER, who was supposed to have his last stamp, stamped Philadelphia shoppers the other day.

ARTIFICIAL teeth are so much in use today that it took 40,000,000 of them up to the demand last year. BOSSIN's centenary occurs on February 29 and the day will be extensively observed in the large Italian cities.

THE Scotch parliament passed a law authorizing the appointment of a lord lieutenant of the county, the sheriff, a nominee of the grand jury and a nominee of the presentment sessions.

THOMAS A. EDISON was born forty years ago, in Alva, O., the town in which he gets his middle name. ALONG the coast of the United States there have been 10,128 casualties to vessels.

IN cases where nature intends that seeds shall fall on flowers at night, the flowers which are all of a white color. PORTUGAL, which has the population of Pennsylvania, with a smaller area, is nearly as large as the United States.

JOSEPH FRANCIS, founder of the United States Life Saving service, is the age of ninety, writing his autobiography. MISS MILLER, twenty years of age, is considered a prodigy in the land territory. She shrinks from no figure or danger.

THE energy of a stroke of lightning estimated by Carl Henge to be equal that of a 100 horse-power engine striking ten hours. A MAN in Long Island has discovered a new kind of vanilla beans to his credit, so that the eggs are distinctly colored with vanilla.

THERE are 400 widows of Confederate soldiers on the Georgia state pension list. This pension fund entails in Georgia an annual tax of \$400,000. "BLESSED are the merciful" is the motto that is engraved upon the cross of George, which was presented by Queen Victoria to Florence Nightingale.

BOSTON is considering three plans for new city hall. One would cost \$4,000,000, another \$2,400,000, while the present structure could be enlarged for \$1,000,000.

NURSERMEN now sell trees on the "year-plan"—that is the nurseryman is to receive choice of any two trees grown on the trees inside of five years in payment of the trees.

MISS MATILDA PHILLIPS, the only sister of Adelaide Phillips, and herself noted opera singer, lives in the famous old home at Marshfield, Mass., the old home of Daniel Webster.

A STERNLY just English magistrate and a grocer at Wolverhampton, a mud and coat for weighing the paper with some sugar and charging the grocer for a full pound of sweetness. WATER is one of the most interesting of discoveries. It is not under the sun's rays in any climate and is expected to be used largely in making the deck seams of fine ships.

It is figured out that if the entire population of the world, comprising 1,600,000,000 people, were divided into millions of five, Texas could furnish each family with a half acre lot and be plenty of land to spare.

SO MANY spurious works by old masters and celebrated modern artists have been copied off lately in Europe that the Belgian police are doing their utmost to discover the factory, which is located in that city.

THE watchmakers of Switzerland, at a convention in Bern, decided to make an exhibit at Chicago of their best and costliest watches, but not to attempt any competition with American manufacturers in cheap grades.

AN English method of keeping the tiny embroidered cover of the toilet fresh and clean, is to have a piece of plate-glass cut to fit the top of the box exactly. This is laid over the cover, while all its beauty is just as apparent, as when it comes near it.

BALFOUR'S BILL.

Irish Local Government Measure in the Commons.

Both Sections of the Parliament are expected to pass the measure. The measure is expected to pass the Commons on Monday.

LONDON, Feb. 19.—The Irish local government bill, which the minister has stated its fortunes, was introduced Thursday night by Balfour, in a speech of considerable force. The measure met with an extremely hostile reception from both sections of the Irish party and the Gladstonians. Mr. Morley de- clared it to be a monstrous outrage and imposture. John Redmond (Parliamentary leader of the Irish party) was equally emphatic, and Justin McCarthy followed suit. The support from the unionist side was somewhat lukewarm and weak.

Morley challenged the government, amid tremendous cheers, to go to the country on this precious measure. The ministerialists seemed for the moment taken aback by the suddenness and insolence of the onslaught, and some nervousness was clearly visible on the faces of the leaders, but the measure still has to be considered in detail, and that is impossible just now, as it is not yet printed. It may improve upon further acquaintance, but the new-born infant has come into a stormy world, and met with an Arctic reception.

There undoubtedly existed a large body of people in Ireland who desired a measure of this kind. It was only due to those persons to examine the bill they entertained. They feared the bill would not pass, and they were afraid they would be plundered and oppressed by the new bodies. Mr. Balfour did not think there was any weight to these arguments which would not stand the brunt of hostile criticism. In the first count, he said, there would be four ex-officio members, the lord lieutenant of the county, the sheriff, a nominee of the grand jury and a nominee of the presentment sessions.

Mr. Balfour said that the county councils would have the combined duties of county and presentment councils and of grand juries, regarding administrative affairs. They will also be empowered, if necessary, to take over the duties of rural sanitary authorities. The councils will appoint the county coroners. They will be empowered to acquire woods and plantations, and thus assist the operation of the land purchase act. Thirteen existing municipalities will be made sanitary councils, having all the powers of counties. The council, where a county is too large, will be divided to correspond with divisions of the county, each division electing fifteen members.

The system of franchises suggested, said Mr. Balfour, would give the minority a vote in the county council, and the councils might use their powers to oppress a small minority, and might be guilty of willful and persistent corruption (Irish jeers). The history of Ireland proved that these remote dangers had a reality. Such dangers did not exist in England. Provision was made to allow voters to come to the polls, a judge of assizes for leave to petition for the removal of the councilors of a borough or county (ironical opposition cheers) on the ground that the councilors were guilty of persistent disobedience of the law, corruption or oppression.

Aid for Starving Russians. PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 19.—With the flood-tide of sympathy for the Russian famine sufferers and a large amount purchased by the citizens' committee, there are now about 30,000 barrels of the command of the committee to be loaded on the steamship Indiana, which will sail on Monday for Liban, Russia. The cash contributions to the famine fund in this city aggregate to date over \$50,000.

Blaine's Letter Missed. NEW YORK, Feb. 19.—The World's Augustus M. Letter says it is known from authoritative source among the friends of Mr. Blaine there that his recent letter of withdrawal was unconditional. Under no condition will he accept the presidential nomination. Mrs. Blaine and Emma wanted him to be candidate, but he refused. His resolution was taken and his letter followed.

Secretary Foster to Cross the Sea. WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—Secretary Foster has been advised by his physicians to cross the Atlantic and go to some of our islands near our coast for his health. If he should go across he would remain in England only a few days, his object being merely to get the benefit of the ocean voyage.

Josee James' Slayer Killed. DENVER, Col., Feb. 19.—Robert Ford, who acquired widespread notoriety for killing Josee James, the Missouri outlaw, in 1882, was shot and killed in a saloon at Creed, a new mining town some distance from here. For some time Ford has been drifting among the mining camps.

A Sealing Proclamation. WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—The regular annual proclamation by the president, warning all persons against illegal sealing in Behring sea, has been prepared and will probably be issued in a few days. The proclamation, it is understood, is couched in the usual terms.

Lawyer Turpin Sued by Lovers. NASHVILLE, Tenn., Feb. 19.—E. J. Turpin, the wealthy Gallatin lawyer who shot and killed Wm. Carter, at that place, Tuesday, was brought here and jailed because of a rapidly growing sentiment in favor of lynching him. He was indicted Thursday for murder in the first degree.

Mayor Wyman Resigns. PITTSBURGH, Pa., Feb. 19.—James G. Wyman, mayor of Allegheny City, who was convicted of extortion last week in court, handed in his resignation to the city council Thursday night. He is to be tried for embezzlement shortly.

Another Break in Brazil. LONDON, Feb. 19.—A dispatch from Rio Janeiro states that advice have been received there that Portuguese capital of the state of Ceara, that disaffected have broken out in that state and that the people of the capital have driven the governor from the city.

Portsmouth Public Building Contract. WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—The secretary of the treasury awarded the contract for steam heating and ventilation apparatus for public building at Portsmouth, O., to Chafer & Becker, of Cleveland, at \$30,485.

Special Session of the Texas Legislature. AUSTIN, Tex., Feb. 20.—Gov. Hogg has issued a call for a special session of the Texas legislature. Several important questions are to be considered, and a United States senator elected.

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ATHENS ASYLUM.

Some Theories That Do Not Quite Explain How Grandson Phillips Received Her Terrible Injuries.

ATHENS, O., Feb. 20.—The investigating committee at the Athens asylum did very little Friday in making progress here in the investigation of the "Grandson Phillips" case at Wellston. The entire day has been spent taking medical testimony.

Early in the morning Drs. Alderman and Tinker, of this city, were sent by the Athens asylum board to Wellston for the purpose of making an examination of the case of Mrs. Sarah Phillips. They returned in the afternoon, and have submitted their report, which in no manner differs from that of all the other physicians who have been called into the case and made examinations for the family, as well as the Athens board of trustees.

"There is no dispute in the minds of any of the physicians regarding one fact, that Mrs. Phillips has in her right side, extending from the shoulder-blade down to near her hip, a black and blue spot which the doctors say was caused by capillary hemorrhage, the result of a blow."

"The people do not care what names were given to the injuries, but they desire to know what in this particular case has been the cause. The theory has been advanced that Mrs. Phillips had received this lacerated condition as the result of a partially paralyzed condition of her right side, which would lead to an arm of the rocking-chair in which she was always kept sitting while she remained in the asylum. Another theory is that she was hurt accidentally during her fighting while in a bath, or rather when the attendants were about to remove her from her bath."

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TWO KILLED.

Two Fatally Injured and Several Severely Hurt in a Railway Accident Near Lake Station, Miss.

MOBILE, Ala., Feb. 23.—A dreadful accident occurred near Lake Station, Scott County, Miss., on the Alabama & Vicksburg railroad, resulting in the deaths of two men and the fatal injury of two others, while several men were severely injured. While a gang of section men were returning from work in the caboose of a freight train the train parted in the middle, owing to an overloaded car breaking in half. The cars behind this one piled upon each in turn, being demolished until the wreck numbered fifteen freight cars and the caboose. The men in the latter were thrown about with terrific force. The Negro members of the section force being crushed beyond recognition, while Ross W. Rogers, a freeman, had his skull fractured and died. William J. Stanley, conductor of the freight train, had a leg broken, and received internal injuries, from which it is barely possible he may recover. Lester Lloyd, a brakeman, was badly cut and bruised about the face and body; but his injuries will probably not prove fatal.

A TERRIBLE STORY. A Child Butchered, Roasted and Eaten By Its Elder Brother. ATLANTA, Ga., Feb. 23.—News of a horrible story of murder and cannibalism near Ray's Mill has been received. Lucy President, a degraded and idiotic negro woman, left her home and nine-months-old infant in charge of her two other children, Mark and Linda, aged respectively eleven and nine years. She went to the place of Mr. J. A. Knight, two miles distant, to do some work for Mrs. Knight. After her departure it seems that Mark resolved upon putting the infant out of the way. So he told his sister what he proposed, and at the same time telling her that if she told he would kill her. Procuring an axe he deliberately knocked the baby in the head and mangled its body in different places. Not content with the crime that he had already committed, he took a fork and gouged out the eyes of the little one, which he roasted, and then taking the child out of either Jay, he and his sister sat themselves down to a feast. When the mother returned and found what had been done she did not show the least sign of maternal grief.

A BRASS BAND. Genuine National Tune for the Columbian Exposition. The members to be gathered from Every State in the Union. WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—The proposition which was started in Sioux City, Ia., that a band should be formed for the Columbian exposition next year, has been a national success. It has been gathered from every state in the union, has been much discussed among members of congress, and the idea seems to have taken with them. But congress has nothing to do with the details of the fair's organization, and consequently the proposition will have to be submitted to the board of the fair. It is thought here that the scheme will be heartily indorsed by the musical organizations of every state in the country, and that the result of the adoption of the plan would be to bring together some of the very best material and the formation of what might be considered a national band. The sense of the world. Some of those who have been seen in regard to the proposition propose to bring it to the attention of the fair managers.

Must Have Questions. NEW YORK, Feb. 23.—From negotiations which have been going on for a week in the New York Produce exchange and the Chicago board of trade it is likely the latter will soon resume sending out public quotations. This is said to be the result of negotiations between the produce exchange and the board of trade and Western Union officials. No details are known, but it is understood public quotations will be resumed early in March.

Nailers Resume Work at a Reduction. WHEELING, W. Va., Feb. 23.—The nailers at the Belmont Mill returned to work Monday, at the reduction offered on Saturday. This will probably result in a general reduction of wages all through the mills all along the river. The mills all claim to be running at a loss under the present scale of the Amalgamated association. The reduction at the Belmont amounts to over twenty per cent on a fourteen cent scale.

Indian Outrages in Peru. LAPAZ, Bolivia, Feb. 23.—At Huancayo, in the Peruvian department of Oroya, Bolivian Indians have attacked a number of farm-houses. The inhabitants took refuge within doors and sustained a long fight with their enemies. They were finally driven off by the soldiers. Advice from other parts of the state tell of Indian outrages, and the massacre of a number of missionaries and settlers.

Fatal Affray in a Church. PITTSBURGH, W. Va., Feb. 23.—Harvey Green stabbed Charles Ross at the door of a colored church, killing him almost instantly. Both men are colored. Ross and his brother Bob attacked Green with stones as he came out of the church. The stabbing followed. The trouble arose over whiskey and a gambling quarrel, and it is also said that Ross stole a quarter out of the collection box.

An Insurance Reform Bill. COLUMBIA, O., Feb. 23.—Representative Taylor, of Jefferson, proposes to radically amend the insurance laws of this state. Within a few days he will introduce a bill to make all insurance policies uniform. Mr. Taylor has prepared a form which he thinks should be adopted by all companies in the state, and it will be incorporated in his bill.

Ed Bowen Dead. NEW YORK, Feb. 23.—Ed Bowen, once a noted ball-player, captain of the Athletics, Philadelphia, died Monday night in Bridgeport, Ct.

Alabama's Politics. MONTGOMERY, Ala., Feb. 23.—The Alabama politicians are now entering in dead earnest to the coming state and national campaigns. There are many Cleveland and McKinley clubs forming, while the republicans are not idle, preparing for the national issue.

Bulletin at a Dance. NEW HADEN, Ill., Feb. 23.—At a dance here a fight took place in which revolvers and knives were freely used. Two young men, names unknown, were fatally injured and several others seriously.

The Ship Canal. ZANESVILLE, O., Feb. 23.—The board of trade has determined to invite the co-operation of organized commercial bodies and officers of municipalities in the Muskingum valley and along the Ohio canal, between Dresden and Cleveland, in favor of the ship canal project. Not much talk, however, is taken in the proposed channel twenty feet deep. Capt. Dana Scott, who is building a new boat for the Muskingum river trade, is of the opinion that a channel nine feet in depth will answer every commercial purpose, as none of the boats and barges on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers draw over seven feet.

A Brutal Fight. PARKERSBURG, W. Va., Feb. 23.—Jeff Wadkins, who